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REMARKS

Claims 1, 102-119, 125-161, 175-178, and 180-186 are presently pending.
The independent claims are claims 1, 125, 135, 140, 175, and 180.

Applicants are mailing a certified copy of UK Patent Application No. 0020499.0, from which the present application claims benefit of priority under 35 U.S.C. §119. The certified copy should be mailed today (January 5, 2005).

Applicants have performed one amendment, which is to independent claim 135. independent claim 135 now recites "a second processing resource in the form of a back end server that is configured to respond to an instruction received through a non-network connected communications channel from another processing resource in the form of a web server disposed in another data processing apparatus to execute only instructions satisfying a predetermined criterion" (emphasis added). The language of "through a non-network connection communications channel" (or "through a non-network connection communication channel") was added in the previous amendment and is presently recited in independent claims 1, 125, 140, 175, and 180. The present amendment simply adds to claim 135 what was previously explicit in all other independent claims. Further, during the previous response, this language was argued as being an exemplary distinguishing feature over the cited references. Consequently, this amendment does not raise new issues. This amendment therefore presents rejected claims in better form for consideration on appeal, as there are fewer issues because each independent claim now contains similar, disputed language. Under 35 C.F.R. §1.116(b)(2), this amendment should be admitted for appeal purposes.

In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner (1) rejected claims 1, 102-105, 108, 109, 111, 125, 127, 132-135, 137-144, 148, 149, 151, 158, 175-177, 180, 181, 183, and 186 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Raanan et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,311,276; (2) rejected claims 106, 136, and 145 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Raanan in view of Piccioni, U.S. Patent No. 6,842,774; (3) rejected claims 107, 146, and 147 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Raanan in view of Tanaka et al., U.S.

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Patent No. 5,539,909; (4) rejected claims 110, 112-119, 126, 128-131, 150, 152-157, and 159 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Raanan in view of Willmann, U.S. Patent No. 5,521,923; (5) rejected claims 160, 161, 184, and 185 under §103(a) as being obvious over Raanan in view of Willmann and in further view of RFC791, "Internet Protocol, DARPA Internet Program Protocol Specification"; and (6) rejected claims 178 and 182 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Raanan in view of OSTA, "The Benefits of Writable Optical Storage".

With regard to the rejections of independent claim 1 in (1) above, Raanan at column 5, lines 10-29 (as cited by the Examiner) does not refer to a non-networked connection. In fact, Raanan is silent as to nature of the connection at that passage. However, in the paragraphs below lines 29, explaining how the system operates, all examples in Raanan are about network connections and protocols (e.g., TCP/IP and HTTP). See, e.g., Raanan at column 5, lines 29-38, which specifically describes TCP/IP and HTTP. Thus, Raanan in fact explicitly discloses only a network connection based system.

In contrast, claim 1 of the present application relates to a situation involving the first processing resources making a direct request to the second processing resource without going via a network connection. Instead, a communications relationship is made via a *non-network connected* communications channel.

Whilst Raanan appears to disclose first and second resources, Raanan is dealing with protecting the second resource from network based attacks via a *networked* connection. A key part of Raanan is the reference to a protocol database (which holds details about the about the protocol used by the network connection). See, e.g., FIGS. 1 and 2 and column 6, lines 7-14 of Raanan. What Raanan as a whole is describing is a filter device inserted in the network connection between client and server. Raanan discusses the problems associated with analyzing network protocols. See FIG. 2 of Raanan, described in column 3, lines 56-58 of Raanan, which defines networked connections.

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In contrast, the present invention as embodied in independent claim 1 describes a backend server that has a non-network connection to a front end web server.

Accordingly, the Examiner's rejection to claim 1 is refuted.

The other independent claims (claims 125, 135, 140, 175, and 180) all recite similar features to claim 2 and therefore are allowable for at least the same reasons. For instance, claim 125 recites in part "a first processing resource in the form of a web server *coupleable* to an open communications network and *to a non-network connected communications channel*, said first processing resource being configured to transmit an instruction to a second processing resource in the form of a back end server disposed in a non-open network coupled data processing apparatus responsive to receiving a communication via said communications channel and for said instruction satisfying a predetermined criterion". Amended independent claim 135 recites in part "a second processing resource in the form of a back end server that is configured to respond to an instruction received *through a non-network connected communications channel* from another processing resource in the form of a web server disposed in another data processing apparatus to execute only instructions satisfying a predetermined criterion." Claim 140 recites in part "establishing a communications relationship between said first and second processing resource *through a non-network connected communications channel* whereby said second processing resource is restricted to implementing an instruction communicated from said first processing resource which only performs a predetermined allowable operation". Claim 175 recites in part "A carrier medium comprising computer machine readable instructions, translatable for configuring a data processing apparatus or system to include or establish a communications relationship *through a non-network connected communication channel* between a first processing resource in the form of a web server coupleable to an open communications network and a second processing resource in the form of a back end server". Claim 180 recites in part "A carrier medium comprising computer or machine readable instructions for configuring a data processing apparatus or system comprising a first processing resource in the form of a web server coupleable to an open

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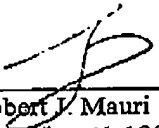
communications network and a second processing resource in the form of a back end server to establish a communications relationship between said first and second processing resources *through a non-network connected communication channel*".

Regarding the rejections in (1) of dependent claims and the rejections of dependent claims in (2)-(6), the dependent claims are all allowable at least by virtue of their dependency from allowable independent claims. Thus, the individual merits of the dependent claims need not be discussed at this juncture.

Based on the foregoing arguments, it should be apparent that claims 1, 102-119, 125-161, 175-178, and 180-186 are thus allowable over the reference(s) cited by the Examiner, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and remove the rejections.

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